

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is thanked for the Advisory Action mailed January 22. The status of the application is as follows:

- Claims 1-8, 10-12, 14, 16-18 and 21-25 are pending, and claims 1-8, 10-12, 14, 16, and 18 have been amended herein, claims 9, 13, 15 and 19-20 have been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 21-25 have been added;
- Claim 14 is objected to for informalities;
- Claims 1, 9-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Flohr et al. (US 6,381,487);
- Claims 5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flohr et al. in view of Rasche et al. (WO02/103639 A2);
- Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flohr et al. in view of Taguchi et al. ("High temporal resolution for multislice helical computed tomography", 2000, Medical Physics, volume. 27, number 5, pages 861-872);
- Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flohr et al. in view of Bruder et al. (US 2003/0072419);
- Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flohr et al. in view of Hsieh (US 6,529,575);
- Claims 14-15 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Drummond et al. (US 6,628,743 B1) in view of Okerlund et al. (US 6,526,117 B1) and in further view of Breeuwer (US 2002/0136438);
- Claims 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Drummond et al. in view of Okerlund et al. and Breeuwer and in further view of Brown ("A Survey of Image Registration Techniques", 1992, ACM Computing Surveys, volume 24, number 4, pages 325-376); and
- Claims 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grass et al. ("Automatic Phase Point Determination for High-Resolution Cardiac CT Reconstruction", 1 December 2003, RSNA 2003, Abstract code E08-462) in view of Breeuwer.

The objections and rejections are discussed below.

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesies extended during the telephone interviews in which proposed claim amendments were discussed in light of the prior art of record.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is again thanked for indicating in the final Office Action that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claim 2 (and thus claims 3-4 and 16, which depend therefrom) is withdrawn. New claim 25 incorporates limitations of independent claim 1 and claim 2, which depends from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry and allowance of claim 25.

Claim Rejections

The rejections of claims 1, 5-8, 10-12, 14, 17 and 18 should be withdrawn because independent claims 1 and 11 have been amended herein in accordance with the suggestions made by the Examiner during the telephone interviews and claims 5-8, 10, 12, 14, 17 and 18 depend from claim 1. Applicants believe that the subject claims are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of the subject claims and an indication of an allowance.

New Claims

New claims 21-25 emphasize various aspects. No new subject matter has been added. The aspects in the new claims are absent from the prior art of record. New claim 25, as noted above, includes subject matter deemed allowable by the office. Entry and allowance of claims 21-25 is respectfully requested.

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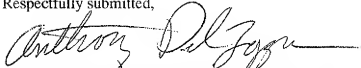
Amdt. Dated: February 12, 2009

Reply to Advisory Action Dated: January 22, 2009

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims distinguish patentably and non-obviously over the prior art of record. An early indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Anthony M. Del Zoppo", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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